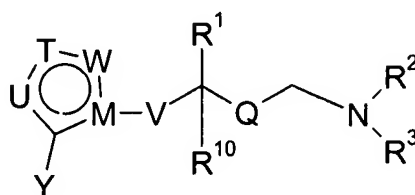


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

Y represents C1 to 4 alkyl, C1 to 4 alkoxy, halogen, CN, C \equiv CH, NO₂, CH₂OH, CHO, COCH₃, NH₂, NHCHO, NHCOCH₃, or NHSO₂CH₃; said alkyl or alkoxy group being optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

T, U and W independently represent CX, N, NR⁹, O^- or S(O)_m, except that at least one of T, U and W must represent a heteroatom and except that not more than one of T, U and W may represent NR⁹, O^- or S(O)_m; m represents an integer 0, 1 or 2; and each X group independently represents H, C1 to 4 alkyl, C1 to 4 alkoxy, halogen, OH, SH, CN, C \equiv CH, N(R¹¹)₂, NO₂, CH₂OH, CHO, COCH₃ or NHCHO; said alkyl or alkoxy group being optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

V represents NR^4 , O, CH_2 , S(O)_n , OCH_2 , CH_2O , NR^4CH_2 , CH_2NR^4 , $\text{CH}_2\text{S(O)}_n$,
 $\text{S(O)}_n\text{CH}_2$, CH_2CH_2 or $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$;

n represents an integer 0, 1 or 2;

M represents C, ~~and when M is bonded to a CH_2 moiety in V, then M may also represent N;~~

R^{10} represents H or Me;

Q represents $(\text{CH}_2)_p$ and p represents an integer 0, 1, 2 or 3;

R^1 represents phenyl or a five or six membered aromatic heterocyclic ring containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N; said phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic ring being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from halogen, C1 to 4 alkyl, C1 to 4 alkoxy, OH, CN, NO_2 or NR^5R^6 ; said alkyl or alkoxy group being optionally further substituted by one or more fluorine atoms;

R^2 and R^3 independently represent H, C1 to 4 alkyl or C3 to 6 cycloalkyl; said alkyl group being optionally substituted by C1 to 4 alkoxy, halogen, hydroxy, $-\text{Z}-\text{NR}^7\text{R}^8$, phenyl or a five or six membered aromatic or saturated heterocyclic ring containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N; said phenyl or aromatic heterocyclic ring being optionally further substituted by halogen, C1 to 4 alkyl, C1 to 4 alkoxy, CF_3 , OCF_3 , CN or NO_2 ;

Z represents $-\text{CO}-$ or a bond;

R^4 and R^{11} independently represent H or C1 to 2 alkyl;

R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^8 independently represent H or C1 to 4 alkyl;

R^9 represents H, C1 to 4 alkyl, CHO, COCH₃, SO₂CH₃ or CF₃;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, wherein V represents S(O)_n and n represents 0.

3. (Previously presented) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein Y represents CN.

4. (Original) A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, which is:

3-[[[(1S)-2-amino-1-phenylethyl]thio]-5-methyl-2-thiophenecarbonitrile;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer or racemate thereof.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant, diluent or carrier.

7-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) A method, the method comprising treating or preventing pain by administering a compound of formula (I) as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

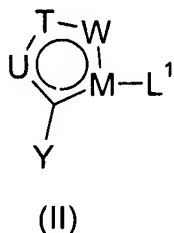
14. (Previously presented) A method, the method comprising treating or preventing an inflammatory disease comprising administering a compound of formula (I) as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a COX-2 inhibitor.

15. (Previously presented) A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, human diseases or conditions in which inhibition of nitric oxide synthase activity is beneficial which comprises administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to a person suffering from, or at increased risk of, such diseases or conditions.

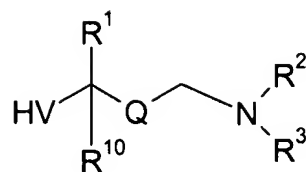
16. (Previously presented) A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, inflammatory disease in a person suffering from, or at risk of, said disease, wherein the method comprises administering to the person a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer or racemate thereof.

17. (Previously presented) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, enantiomer or racemate thereof, wherein the process comprises:

(a) reaction of a compound of formula (II)



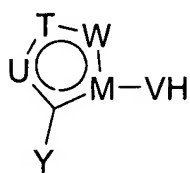
wherein T, U, W, Y and M are as defined in Claim 1 and L^1 represents a leaving group, with a compound of formula (III)



(III)

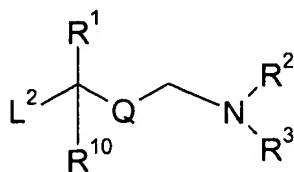
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^{10} , Q and V are as defined in Claim 1; or

(b) reaction of a compound of formula (IV)



(IV)

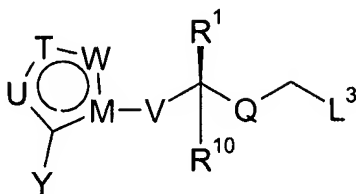
wherein T , U , W , M , Y and V are as defined in Claim 1,
with a compound of formula (V)



(V)

wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^{10} and Q are as defined in Claim 1 and L^2 is a leaving group; or

(c) reaction of a compound of formula (VI)



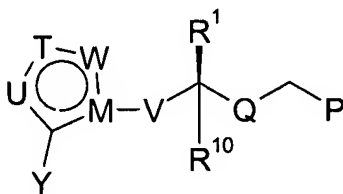
(VI)

wherein R^1 , R^{10} , Q, T, U, W, M, Y and V are as defined in Claim 1 and L^3 is a leaving group,
with a compound of formula (VII)



wherein R^2 and R^3 are as defined in Claim 1; or

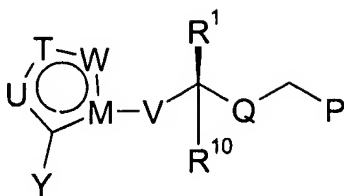
(d) reduction of a compound of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

wherein R^1 , R^{10} , Q, T, U, W, M, Y and V are as defined in Claim 1 and P represents azide (N_3);
or

(e) hydrolysis of a compound of formula (VIII)



(VIII)

wherein R¹, R¹⁰, Q, T, U, W, M, Y and V are as defined in Claim 1 and P represents an imide group;

and where desired or necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting one compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I); and where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein it is predominantly inducible nitric oxide synthase that is inhibited.
19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the disease is inflammatory bowel disease.
20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the disease is rheumatoid arthritis.
21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein the disease is osteoarthritis.